



# County of San Diego

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**EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE (EMCC)**  
**Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee Meeting**  
Chara Cote, RN, Chair/ Christopher Scott, MD, Vice Chair  
c/o SD County Emergency Medical Services Office  
County Operations Center  
5560 Overland Avenue, Rm 171, San Diego 92123  
**Thursday, March 14, 2024**

## Minutes

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### IN ATTENDANCE

#### Members

Cote, RN, Chara – Base Hospital Nurse Coordinators  
Forney, Paul – SD County Ambulance Association  
Lopez, Brent – CAL-AAMS (Technical Advisor)  
Muns, Harry – SD Fire Chiefs' Association  
Murphy, Mary – County Paramedic Agencies Committee (Alt)  
Scott, MD, Christopher – SD County Medical Society

#### County Staff

Assof, Michael  
Christison, Brian  
del Toro, Nicole (recorder)  
Haidari, Tareq  
Parr, Andy  
Trousdale, Brad

#### Agency Representatives

Clyons, Jeff – SD Fire Rescue  
Jackson, Ennis – AMR/RCCP  
Jordan, Jon – SDCFCA  
Kahn, MD, Chris – UCSD  
Sullivan, Don – AMR

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### I. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chara Cote, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A quorum was declared.
- Brent Lopez representing CAL-AAMS was introduced as the new Technical Advisor for EMCC.
- A presentation on the construction and traffic changes at UCSD Hillcrest was to be provided by a community member. Will work on distributing the materials after the meeting.

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### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from November 9, 2023 were not approved; The members from the November meeting were not in attendance today to approve the minutes.

A motion was made by Paul Forney, seconded by Dr. Chris Scott to approve the February 8, 2024 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

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### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS/PETITIONS

There were no public comments or petitions.

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### IV. COUNTY REPORT – Brian Christison, Program Coordinator

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- Health Services Capacity Plan Level: Plan Level 5 – Enhanced Surveillance; Southern California Fire Preparedness Level: Plan Level 1.
  - The Comprehensive Base Station Hospital and Trauma Catchment Area Consultant: The consultant's work continues. This document will include 6 different models to compare as models for the future of the EMS base hospital system in San Diego County. The Consultant will also be looking at the Trauma Center Catchment Area Map to assure that Trauma Centers receive an optimal balance of Trauma calls at each center and other demographic updates for the catchment map.

The consultant's initial findings and recommendations were presented at 5 in-person sessions November 7-9. The presentation is also available for viewing on the County Engagement page.

Additional information and timelines are posted on the County EMS webpage.

Community Engagement Page: [Base Station Hospital & Trauma Catchment Review | Engage San Diego County](#)

CoSD EMS Informational Page: [Comprehensive Evaluation of the Base Hospital System and Trauma Center Catchment Area Designation \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](#)

- Protocols: The 2024-2025 EMS Treatment Protocol Revision cycle concluded on October 1. A survey was posted online from September 1 – October 1 for the EMS community to provide feedback on treatment protocols. The survey received over 70 responses from various system participants ranging from EMTs to physicians.

County staff are diligently reviewing the public comments to incorporate into draft protocols, which will be presented at Base Station Physicians' Committee (BSPC) on March 19 and April 16.

- Local Optional Scope of Practice initiatives:  
International Port of Entry Scope Enhancement
  - We jointly submitted a new LOSOP with Imperial County EMS that is designed to address the complexities with patients presenting via Mexican ambulance at the international border, many of which include medications and equipment in use that are out of scope for California paramedics.
  - The LOSOP was presented at EMDAC – Scope of Practice Committee this month to start the initial review process.Dexamethasone
  - We are also working on a potential dexamethasone LOSOP for pediatric respiratory distress and in the initial stages of this research.
- STEMI/Stroke: EMSA made an announcement at EMDAC there will be changes to the STEMI/stroke regulations and they will be posted for public comment in the near future.
- EMS Mobile App: The EMS Mobile App was updated to include an option to comment on EMS treatment protocols, policies open for public comment, and submit feedback for the EMS Mobile App. Users can navigate to the References section, then click on "EMS App, Protocol, and Policy Suggestions and Comments" to see this new feature.

EMS Mobile App: <https://emsmobile.sandiegocounty.gov/>

- County EMS Fees and the next Fiscal Year: The EMS Office is currently working closely with the County's Emergency Services Administration Unit to review LEMSA fees. The fees being reviewed are personnel fees, specialty care fees and EMS permit fees. More information will be forthcoming as the analysis and calculations take shape. If you have questions or comments, please reach out via email [EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:EMSNotifications@sdcounty.ca.gov).
- Health Officer Order for Annual Influenza Season: The annual influenza season is upon us. The health officer order is evergreen and in force through the designated influenza season (November 1-March 31). The influenza letter requires, among other things, that healthcare personnel (including EMS credentialed personnel) wear a mask in patient care areas if they choose to not be vaccinated for influenza. As a reminder, the "Jury Duty letter" has been discontinued, as any jury summons can be deferred for any reason anytime.

You can view the health order here: [Health Officer Order \(HOO\) - Annual Influenza Season](#)

- Public Comment Process: As a reminder, you can subscribe to receive email notifications when draft

policies are posted for public comment at the top of the Draft Policy Public Comment page. A Draft Policy Public Comment link is also located on the EMS Mobile App.

Public Comment Page: [Online Public and Stakeholder Comment Submission \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov)

- **Current Medication Shortages:** County EMS is aware of multiple medication shortages and has issued guidance on albuterol and ketamine. We recommend auditing your inventory levels and communicating with your medication vendors on how they may be impacted.

Additional information on these medication shortages, as well as mitigation strategies, can be found on our new Medication Shortages page.

Medication Shortages Page: [Medication Shortages \(sandiegocounty.gov\)](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov)

- **County EMS Office Holiday Closure Advisory:** Cesar Chavez Day, April 1, 2024

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## V. POLICY PRESENTATIONS

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### A. Non-substantive Policy Updates

- *S-411 Reporting of Suspected Child, Dependent Adult, or Elder Abuse/Neglect*
  - Reporting contacts and process updates
- *B-450 EMT Scope of Practice*
  - Conclusion of EMT PAA Optional Skill
- *T-710 Designation of a Trauma Center*
  - Grammar and code section reference

**A motion was made by Dr. Chris Scott, seconded by Mary Murphy to endorse Policies S-411, B-450, and T-710. Motion carried.**

### B. Policy Sunsets (July 1, 2024)

- Policies Replaced by Online/Digital Forms Scheduled for Deletion
  - *P-301A Paramedic Training Program Application Form*
  - *P-302A Application for Out-of-County Paramedic Internship*
  - *S-306A Application for Authorization as Approved Provider of Prehospital CE in SD County*
  - *B-351A EMT Training Programs Application*
- Policies related to conclusion of the EMT PAA Optional Skill
  - *B-325 Perilaryngeal Airway Adjuncts Training Program Requirements*
  - *D-822 Perilaryngeal Airway Adjuncts Service Provider Designation*
- Recommended for Removal for Statute/Regulation Alignment
  - *P-408 Variation from San Diego County Protocols for Advanced Life Support*
  - *P-408A QCS Confidential Prehospital QA Report – MD Variation Detail*
- Outdated Transfer of Care Button Procedure for Deletion
  - *S-610A Transfer of Care Procedure*
- Combined Inventory Policies Scheduled for Deletion (S-804 First Responder Inventory)
  - *P-806 ALS First Responder Inventory*
  - *P-807 Wildland ALS Kit Inventory*
  - *B-834 BLS First Responder Inventory*

Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator, shared the following presentation: [CoSD EMS Policy Updates and Sunsets](#). Group discussion followed.

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## VI. NEW BUSINESS

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### A. Presentation on AB-40 and S-610 Revisions

Michael Assof, EMS Coordinator, shared the following presentation: [AB-40 Overview & Implementation](#). Group discussion followed.

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## VII. OLD BUSINESS

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A. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

**ACTION: A request was made to keep this item on the agenda for next month, until enough primary members are in attendance for nomination.**

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**VIII. NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

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The next EMCC Prehospital/Hospital Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2024, 9:30 am at the County Operations Center, Rm 171. Meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.